Dear Parents and Friends of SGS,

With Grammar Minds – Positive Flourishing Learners, we are focusing on Resilience during Term 1. Building our resilience enables us to keep going when things become difficult and bounce back when things go wrong. Learning is often a challenge and it should be so we can grow. We are considering particularly how we persevere, how we strengthen our ability to persevere and how we manage our distractions in order to learn. In this age of technology and easy accessibility, the technology is often a distractor. Emails alarm every time you receive one, demanding your attention. How do we learn to manage this, to stop it distracting us from the task that needs our attention?

We need to persevere with our new parking arrangements and become aware of the changes around the School. The designated zones are designed to help our traffic movements and, in particular, make the School precinct safe.

Please be aware of the signage and park appropriately. I am aware that we are regularly being checked by the local police and I wouldn’t want anyone to receive any of the fines that are shown on the flyer included in this Newsletter below.

We continue to uphold all those affected by the fires in our thoughts and prayers and to also pray for some refreshing rain for the land.

Paul Smart
Principal
Over these first weeks of term, students in Years 1-6 have participated in various ACER (Australian Council for Educational Research) assessments, which have included: PAT Maths, PAT Reading Vocabulary, PAT Reading Comprehension and PAT Spelling. The ACER PAT (Progressive Achievement Tests) provide us with valuable information to inform teaching and learning.

The ACER PAT assessments are an Australian, nationally normed series of tests, designed to provide objective, norm-referenced information to teachers about their students’ skills and understandings in a range of key areas. At the centre of each PAT test is a described proficiency scale, providing both quantitative and qualitative data on student performance, making the PAT tests ideal for understanding students’ current strengths and weaknesses, informing teaching and learning, and monitoring progress over time. These assessments will be completed again in Term 4.

You may be interested to discuss these tests with your child’s class teacher, during Parent/Teacher Interviews in Week 10 of this term.

In previous years, this cost for ACER assessments has been passed onto parents, while the costs for the Accelerated Reader programme have been covered by the School. In 2017, we will be reversing this arrangement, with the School to cover costs for ACER Assessments, and costs for students’ participation in Accelerated Reader to be added to the Parent’s Monthly Statement.

K-2 Info Night  Thursday, 16 February  7:00pm
New Parents Welcome  Friday, 17 February  6:00pm
3-6 Info Night  Tuesday, 21 February  7:00pm

Kinder/Year 1 Swim Fun Day on Friday, 3 March.

We are still looking for additional helpers for our School Student Banking programme, which is facilitated on Thursday mornings. This is not a difficult task and only takes about an hour. This valuable programme encourages students to develop sound saving habits and also provides a regular boost to school funds, as the Commonwealth bank pays a small commission for each deposit made during the year. Please contact me through the Primary Office if you are interested and able to assist.

Primary students are regularly awarded Well Done Certificates by teachers here at the School. These certificates are a way of giving encouragement and positive feedback to the students, and acknowledging that we have seen their efforts, endeavours or achievements in particular areas around the School. Where a student has earned 5, 10 or 15 x Well Dones, they are then eligible to receive a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award. Well Dones can be accumulated towards these Bronze, Silver and Gold awards, during Years K-2, Years 3-4 and Years 5-6. Students start afresh in Kindergarten, Year 3 and Year 5. Do encourage your children to retain their Well Dones and to bring them in to the Primary Office as they collect 5, 10 or 15, to keep the award process working through.

This week, our Kindergarten students are participating in a Bus Safety workshop. Two local Police Officers and a local bus company driver, will visit the School on Thursday to speak to students about safe bus behaviour. Students will have opportunity to practise these safety behaviours on a short bus ride around town. At the School, we regularly speak to the students about the importance of appropriate bus behaviour. This means respect and courtesy for the driver, for other students on the bus, and particularly for the bus rules. Bus rules include sitting down, facing the front, talking quietly, using appropriate language, following instructions from the driver and / or senior students and always having their bus pass. Please talk through these areas with your children at home so that we can work cooperatively and positively with our local bus companies and drivers.

Good Humour for the Week

What do you usually do after a tree is chopped down?
Chop it up!

Congratulations to George Patterson (Year 3 Blue), Jack Murphy (Year 2 Gold), Ollie Hatherly (Kindergarten Gold), Harry Goodhew (Year 5 Blue), Izzy Jones (Year 2 Gold), and Georgina Pratley (Year 5 Blue), who are all celebrating birthdays this week. I do wish these students all the best as they enjoy this special milestone and share the time with family and friends.
The topic of ‘leadership’ as a character strength has been on my mind this week. On Monday, we enthusiastically inducted our 2017 student leaders. On Friday, Year 11 had an opportunity to lead our Year 7 group at our Peer Support Day, which they did very well. This coming Thursday, Year 6 will have an opportunity to learn leadership skills as they prepare to lead the Primary Peer Support Programme. Our School Captains and Chapel Prefects will be attending a conference on positive school leadership in Adelaide next week. Here at Scone Grammar School we are aiming to teach all of our young people (as fundamental to our understanding of having a growth mindset) that leaders are 'grown' and not just naturally 'born' as leaders. I like the quote that says "The most dangerous leadership myth is that leaders are born- that there is a genetic factor to leadership. That's nonsense; in fact, the opposite is true. Leaders are made rather than born." Leadership is a character strength that can be developed in all of us.

Where does leadership place in your strengths profile? Find out by clicking on this link and completing the VIA Signature Strengths Survey. The interpersonal skill of leadership falls under the virtue category of Justice. Justice describes strengths that make life fair. If leadership is one of your top strengths, you excel at encouraging a group to get things done and preserving harmony within the group by making everyone feel included. You do a good job of casting a vision, organising activities and seeing that they happen.

Practically speaking, what can you do to encourage your young person today to build this strength? You could encourage them this school term to lead an activity, assignment or project and actively solicit opinions from group members. Talk with them about how this went. Another helpful activity could be to read a biography and/or watch film of an inspirational leader and discuss how he/she inspires them in practical ways. All of us can develop this character strength and all of us share this responsibility in the building up of this strength in our young people. 1 Corinthians 3:7 reminds us that we will need to seek God’s help to grow this in us.

In Prayer this week:
Reflect on: 1 Corinthians 3:7
Give thanks for: The gifts God has given us; God’s goodness in sending us Jesus, the resurrection and the life, so we can have a way to be friends with God; Parents, teachers and supporters who truly care for us;
Pray for: The school building project; families and students who are ill or struggling at the moment: your son or daughter’s teacher/s!

Rev Nate
natkinson@sgs.nsw.edu.au
I had the absolute pleasure on Friday of working with a team of Year 11 students whose goal for the day was to make sure the new Year 7 cohort felt like they were part of the Secondary School. It may well have been 43 degrees on the day but that didn’t stop their enthusiasm. At the start of the day there were a few students struggling to fit in but after a group chat, some morning tea and a good bit of Year 11 proving they could relate to Year 7 everyone had a friend and was part of the activities. The rest of the day was spent playing cricket, soccer, barefoot bowls and finishing the afternoon off with a swim. In the pool there was a game of Marco Polo that, at its peak, had about 50 players. Several of the locals in the pool asked what we were doing, so I explained and they were genuinely surprised that the six staff were giving very few instructions and the senior students were completely in control of so much fun and laughter. I congratulate the Year 11 students who joined in on Friday; they are excellent leaders of the future and I think I could say one or two of them may find teaching is their calling. I would also like to congratulate Year 7 for fearlessly having a go at every challenge and for not once whinging about the weather.

Also this week, Year 12 have been allowed into their Senior Study space. Overcoming a few teething problems, they have added some personal touches and are learning the self-discipline required to study while your friends are in the same room.

On Monday, we inducted the 2017 school leaders and they are a very talented, dedicated and hard working group. I am in no doubt they will be leaders of whom we can all be proud.

Our Secondary staff have spent this week looking in detail at the NAPLAN results from last year with the help of Colleen Catford from the AIS. Over the next few weeks they will refine their goals for this year and I will share those with you.

I would like to finish by thanking everyone for a fantastic start to the year. We are still concentrating on the three A’s and I am very pleased with the overall improvement in attendance and appearance.

Quote of the Week

“The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today.”
H. Jackson Brown Jr

Mrs Deanna Hollis
dhollis@sgs.nsw.edu.au
Resilience

This term we are going to share with you how Positive Education and Building Resilience looks in practice at The Yellow Cottage.


At the core of The Yellow Cottage is our relationships with caregivers and parents. We realise the need to share information about caregiving practices so that areas of common ground and points of difference can be identified. The foundation of this practice is a trusting relationship with parents, and central to relationship building is communication and open dialogue with parents on childcare matters and other issues relevant to their child.

At The Yellow Cottage we encourage family partnerships and involvement at all levels of preschool. We appreciate families taking the time to read our programmes on display, spending five minutes interacting with their child in the preschool setting, following their child’s learning journey via KeptMe and sending in family contributions for the Yarning Basket topics.

Thank you families for allowing us at The Yellow Cottage to be part of your tightly woven web of love. Together we can build resilient, positive children who thrive in their development and learning.
Year 7 and 11 Peer Support Day

Last Friday Year 7 and 14 Year 11 students gathered for our annual Peer Support Day at Scone Rugby Club. The Year 11 students were wonderful mentors to the Year 7s. The day allowed all students to participate and interact positively with each other and to have a better understanding of each other’s talents and abilities; there was a genuine connection between the two year groups. We know the value of this connection in the building up of these students.

We engaged in a number of fun activities such as swimming at Scone Pool, bare foot bowls at Scone RSL Club, team building exercises, sport and mentoring conversations. A special guest was bush expert, Sam, from Barrington Outdoor Centre. Sam demonstrated a variety of bush skills. All the students, and staff, learnt from Sam whose love of the natural world was evident in his presentation.

Students and staff were treated to Mrs Hollis’ famous pulled beef rolls and salads. Throughout the day all were supplied with fruit, cakes, snacks and ice-blocks to keep the energy levels up. Many thanks to the staff team that consisted of Mr. Price, Mrs. Hollis, Rev Nate, Mrs. (Kat) Moore, Mrs. Steedman and Mr. Garland.
Year 11 Ancient History and Archaeology

On Tuesday 14 February, students in Year 11 Ancient History enjoyed a visit from former student Victoria Cottle who came to share her experiences of working on a dig in Israel. In July 2017, Tori and a number of other Australian students travelled to Azekah, a site south of Jerusalem that is currently being excavated. The Year 11 students heard about her experiences on a dig and Tori shared some photographs of the dig site and artefacts she helped uncover. This was a great opportunity for the students to hear firsthand about the processes involved in the excavation of a site, which is part of their study of the core topic ‘History, Archaeology and Science’.

Thankyou to Victoria for taking the time to come to talk to the students here at SGS.

Ms Gibson

Equestrian News

Entry information for the Blandford Horse Sports Day, 3 March, has been sent out on the SkoolBag App and is also on the SGS website on the Home page and also on Quick Links – SGS Horse Sports. Blandford entry forms must be handed in to the school office by this Friday, 17 February.

Equi Skills Theory lessons commence on Monday 6 March. Tuesday Horse Sports commences on Tuesday 7 March. Please contact adavies@sgs.nsw.edu.au if you need more information.

Looking for volunteers to assist with Cross Country Jump Judging at Scone One Day Event on 4 & 5 March. If interested or can assist at all please contact Nikki Richardson on 0409 225 352.

Anne Davies
Equestrian Co-ordinator

Sporting Achievements

Ryan Clerke has been selected in the Newcastle Knights U14s Development Squad. There are 60 young men in the squad including 6 from the Scone area. He has been training every Wednesday evening in Newcastle since early November. Out of the squad of 60, Ryan was picked in a team of 25 to play a trial match in January against the Canberra Raiders. He has since been asked to train with the U15’s Knights squad. Ryan’s effort in pursuing this goal has been instrumental in his continued development and achievement.

We encourage you to keep working hard!

Rev Nate
St Luke’s Anglican Church are inviting interested Secondary students to be confirmed into the Christian faith. What is confirmation all about? There are the 2 components:

**A promise is made:** At confirmation, we celebrate as someone publicly declares their personal faith in Jesus. As a baby, perhaps their parents made promises on their behalf, including encouraging them to learn about the Christian faith. In the act of confirmation though, the person being confirmed owns these promises for themselves. They don’t just follow their parents' faith anymore, but now take an adult responsibility for it themselves (that’s why confirmation classes are really important in helping those to be confirmed understand the Christian faith and what they are committing to). Hearing people declare their faith and make these promises is also really encouraging for other Christians as well. It’s like making a stand and saying, ‘This is what I believe’.

**A prayer is prayed:** The minister leads the church in praying for each person who is confirmed. The prayer is that God will strengthen them by his Holy Spirit. I think this is one of the best things about the confirmation service. I’m really thankful that this prayer is prayed and I always say a passionate 'amen' to it when I’m at a confirmation service for others.

**Should you consider being confirmed?**
Well, it is for those who want to make that promise. Those who want to say ‘Yes, I believe in Jesus and what He has done and I want to live my life following Him and His way’. If it’s your parents who want you to be confirmed but you can’t commit to that promise, then it’s best to wait and keep thinking about it. It’s not something to rush into or to do because someone else wants you to. Have a think for yourself. It has been my experience, though, that lots of growth as a Christian takes place when you can say a public ‘Yes’ to following Jesus!

If you have any questions about Confirmation, or want to pick up a registration form, please come and see Rev’d Nate or Mr Price. We will then meet for 4 lunchtimes over 4 weeks in preparation for the service on 26 March at St Luke’s Anglican Church, where you can make your promise and be prayed for.

Rev’d Nate
natkinson@sgs.nsw.edu.au
Message from the P&F

Dear Parents and Friends of SGS,

Our thoughts are with all those within our community affected by the current bushfires. There have been devastating losses for some and to these families we send our deepest sympathies. On the other side of the fires have been members of our SGS community bravely working as part of our local Rural Fire Service and to these individuals (and their families) we give our heartfelt thanks and gratitude.

If you are aware of any individual or family who may be in need of some practical support (bushfire related or not), please do not hesitate to contact me on 0431 093 735. Alternatively, Rev Nate can be contacted at the School at 6545 3131.

Yours faithfully,

Diana Gillett

Save the Date: SGS Fete, Saturday 6 May, 2017
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sandwiches</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>Salad Tubs</th>
<th>$</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wholemeal, white or grain bread (made on brown bread unless other requested)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 x filling</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>Ham</td>
<td>6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 x fillings</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Plain</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 or more fillings</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td><strong>Drinks</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fillings available:</td>
<td></td>
<td>Classic 600ml (large)</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken, ham, cheese, lettuce, capsicum, cucumber, beetroot, avocado, tomato, onion</td>
<td></td>
<td>Classic 375ml (small)</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wraps</td>
<td></td>
<td>Juice 500ml (large)</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken/Ham Salad Wrap</td>
<td>5.50</td>
<td>Juice 250ml (small)</td>
<td>2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salad Wrap</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>Play Water – Lemonade &amp; Fruit Tingle</td>
<td>3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken Chilli Wrap</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot Food</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Treats</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheese Burger (Beef)</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>Eucalyptus Drops</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken Nuggets (6 per serve)</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Chips (packet)</td>
<td>1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>S/V Chicken Nuggets (2 per serve)</td>
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<td>Lamingtons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Fat Lasagne</td>
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<td>Finger Buns</td>
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<td>Low Fat Cheese &amp; Macaroni</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Tiny Teddies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Fat Pasta Blasta</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Jelly Cups (200ml)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Fat Pie</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>Frozen Yogurt</td>
<td>2.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Fat Mini Pie</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>TNT Stick (Fruityz Pop – apple base)</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Fat Sausage Roll</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>TNT Sour Ice Monty</td>
<td>0.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pizzas – Hawaiian / Cheese &amp; Bacon</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>Choc Paddle Pops</td>
<td>2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garlic Bread</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>Lemonade Icy Poles</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiche</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Bulla Ice Cream Tubs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potato Wedges</td>
<td>2.50</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pizza Rounders – Cheese &amp; Bacon</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td><strong>Fruit</strong></td>
<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sauce Sachets</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>Fresh Fruit – when available</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gluten Free:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Recess Only</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Nuggets</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Ham &amp; Cheese Melts</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please Note:

- no Sandwiches, Salad Wraps or Salad Tubs available
- Still available are: Chicken Chilli Wraps and Cheese Burgers (Beef)

Due to WHS restrictions, we are not permitted to heat food or toast sandwiches brought in by students

**Please note the Chicken Burger has been replaced by our new Beef with Cheeze & BBQ Sauce Burger.**
Hunter Youth Leadership Program

- Sunday 28 May - Saturday 3 June 2017
- Years 9 & 10 from the Upper Hunter Valley
- Ask your year advisor for an application form or contact:
  Suzie Fawcett
  0427 290 594 | suzie.fawcett@outwardbound.org.au

Filling fast! A few places still available
www.outwardbound.org.au

Step up, step out and learn to lead! | Proudly Supported by COAL & ALLIED
Muswellbrook Out of School Hours Care

**MOOSH**

Bowman Park Community Ctr
Skellatar Street Muswellbrook

****Phone: 6541 3205****
Email: moosh@uhcs.org.au
www.uhcs.org.au

ARTS, CRAFTS & GAMES GALORE
COME ALONG AND JOIN IN THE FUN
Reasonable Fees
With CCB & CCR entitlements
BUS TRAVEL TO & FROM SCHOOL
Fully Accredited with QCF

FUN CARE FOR SCHOOL KIDS

**MONDAY – FRIDAY**
*AM Session: 6:30 - 9:00
*PM Session: 3:00 - 6:00
*Pupil Free Days: 6:30 - 6:00
*Vacation Care: 7:00 - 6:00

ARTS & CRAFT
GROUP GAMES
DRAMA
FREE TIME
MUSIC
SPORT
DANCE
PLAY STATIONS
EXCURSIONS
WATER PLAY
COOKING
HOMEWORK HELP

For more Information jump on our webpage and download enrolment forms
www.uhcs.org.au
go to the forms and brochures tab.
OR
Flick us an email
OR
Call us or drop over to the Centre
**Kids Club and Explorers are back!!!!**

**What is it?**
- **Kids club...** 4 afternoons of fun - games, craft, activities, food and finding out more about Jesus
- **Explorers ...** For older children
  Exploring questions and what the Bible really says, activities, food and fun.

**Who’s it for?**
- Kids club is for children in years K - 3
- Explorers is for children in years 4 - 6

**When is it?**
3.15pm - 5pm on Mondays 13, 20, 27 March & 3 April

**Where is it?**
St Luke’s Hall, Scone.

Kids club and Explorers have afternoon tea together and may share some activities but will be in separate groups both at St Luke’s Hall.

Children from Scone Grammar School can be accompanied to the hall.
Please state arrangements clearly on registration form.

**How do I join?**
Registration forms are attached to the flyer. Flyers are available at and should be returned to the Primary school office. There are limited places. These are allocated in date order when completed forms are received. All children must be registered in advance by Friday 3 March.

**How do I find out more?** Phone Jenny on 0409 818977

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**Message from Muswellbrook PCYC**

Muswellbrook PCYC is holding its next Safer Driver Course on Tuesday the 28 February. This course is for learner drivers who have 50 hours in their log book. For more information please call the PCYC on 65411434 or call in to pick up your pack.

Following on from this date the next Safer Driver course will be on Tuesday 28 March.
Community Notices & News

For Your Diary

Term 1
Monday, 30 January to Friday, 7 April

Week 3 (A)
Thursday 16 February
Kinder – Year 2 Information Night
Year 6 Peer Support Training 16 & 17 February

Friday 17 February
New Parents’ 2017 Welcome Function
Year 6 Peer Support Training

Week 4 (B)
Monday 20 February
Tuesday 21 February
Secondary Swimming Carnival (b/fwd from 28 February)
Years 3 – 6 Information Evening

Wednesday 22 February
School Council Meeting

Thursday 23 February
HRIS Primary Swimming Div. 1
All Schools’ Triathlon

Saturday 25 February
SGS Academic Scholarship Exams

Week 5 (A)
Tuesday 28 February
HICES Debating

Thursday 2 March
Year 7 Vaccinations

Friday 3 March
Blandford Horse Sports
National Young Leaders’ Day

Canteen Roster

Term 1 – Monday, 6 February to Friday, 7 April

Week 3 (A)
Thursday 16 February
Jenny Crackett

Friday 17 February
Jenny Crackett, Julianne Christopher, Karen Yelverton

Week 4 (B)
Monday 20 February
Jenny Crackett, Danielle Saw-Townsend

Tuesday 21 February
Jenny Crackett

Wednesday 22 February
Jenny Crackett, Belinda Sowter

Thursday 23 February
Fiona Bailey, Pip Bishop

Friday 24 February
Fiona Bailey, Errin Day, Rachel Northam

Week 4 (A)
Monday 27 February
Jenny Crackett, Kelly Malone

Tuesday 28 February
Fiona Bailey, Helen Smith

Wednesday 1 March
Fiona Bailey, Debbie Sadler

Thursday 2 March
Jenny Crackett, Lorraine Bull

Friday 3 March
Jenny Crackett, Jaymiee Allen, Julie Smart

XXXXXX Help wanted please